break up of the erstwhile USSR., Government have also been pursuing a policy of establishing contacts with Russia as well as each of the successor States of the former USSR for promotion of Defence Cooperation.

Simultaneously, Government are also pursuing measures to sustain defence imports from other sources and to strengthen indigenous production facilities to ensure that the defence requirements of the country are fully met.

[English]

N.H. No. 31, Sikkim

1308. SHRI BHIM PRASAD DAHAL : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any request from Sikkim Government for construction of an alternative Highway for Sikkim from Siliguri to Gangtok;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken by the Government in this regard; and

(d) whether there is a proposal to hand-over National Highway 31A to CPWD?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) to (c) Govt. of Sikkim have requested for an alternative route to Sikkim from Siliguri via Singla Bazar. Improvement of Siliguri-Singla Bazar road which falls in West Bengal could be included in 9th Plan under Economic and Inter State Importance Scheme depending on availability of funds.

(d) NH 31A is under the control of Border Roads Organisation and there is no proposal to hand over NH 31A to C.P.W.D.

[Translation]

Road Between Bareilly to Amingaon

1309. SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the scheme for the construction of 1600 Km. long parallel road from Bareilly (U.P.) to Amingaon (Assam) was formulated in 1963 and it was accorded approval in various stages;

(b) whether the construction of 205 Km long Darbhanga Forbisganj missing link which is a part of this paralled road has not been completed yet without which even the conception of this parallel road is incomplete, and

(c) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to construct this road?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G.VENKATRAMAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. the stetch from Darbhanga to Forbisganj never formed a part of this project.

(c) Does not arise.

[English]

Changes in NCC Organisations

1310. SHRI NARAYAN ATHAWALAY : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government are considering radical changes in training content and structure of NCC Organisations in terms of upgradation and expansion etc.

(b) if so, the details thereof, and

(c) the details of present set up and coverage of the organisation and proposed expansion, State-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) to (c) Under the command and control of Director General NCC, New Delhi, there are 16 Directorates, 91 Group Headquarters and 754 Units in the country. The State-wise details of NCC Units are in the attached statement. The Government are constituting a Committee headed by the Additional Secretary in the Ministry of Defence to review the functioning of NCC.

Statement

Sl. No.	State (s)	No. of Units	Total No. of Districts	No of Districts covered by NCC
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	57	23	23
2.	Bihar	43	55	55
3.	Delhi	18	09	09
4.	Gujarat	35	19	19
5.	Jammu & Kashmir	09	14	14
6.	Karnataka	49	20	20

1	2	3	4	5
7.	Goa	03	01	01
8.	Kerala	38	14	14
9.	Madhya Pradesh	51	45	45
10.	Maharashtra	59	31	31
11.	Assam	26	23	23
12.	Arunachal Pradesh	01	11	11
13.	Manipur	03	08	06
14.	Meghalaya	04	07	07
15.	Mizoram	01	03	02
16.	Nagaland	04	07	06
17.	Tripura	03	03	03
18.	Orissa	23	30	30
19.	Punjab	29	17	17
20.	Haryana	17	12	12
21.	Himachal Pradesh	12	12	12
22.	Rajasthan	35	30	30
23.	Tamil Nadu	51	29	29
24.	Uttar Pradesh	122	68	66
25.	West Bengal	50	18	18
26.	Sikkim	-	04	04
UNION TERRITORIES				
1.	Chandigrah	04	01	01
2.	Diu & Daman	-	02	01
3.	Dadar & Nagar Heveli	-	01	01
4.	Lakshadweep	-	01	01
5.	Pandicherry	05	04	04
6.	Andaman & Nicobar	02	02	02

Recruitment in Defence Forces

1311. SHRI KESHAB MAHANTA : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of recruitment made in the Defence forces from Assam during each of the last three years, wing-wise,

(b) whether the total number of such recruitment is less in Assam, as compared to some other States;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) the names of recruitment centres in Assam and the number of recruitment made by each of these centres, wing-wise, during the said period;

(e) whether the Government are aware of some irregularities in recruitment in these centres; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINSTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) Details of recruitment made in Defence forces from Assam during the last three years are given below:

	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
Army	771	1135	2157
	1994	1995	1996
Navy	6	5	10
Air Force	17	34	36

(b) and (c) In the case of Army, recruitment is done in proportion to the Recruitable Male Population (RMP) of Assam as in the case of rest of the country. However, there is a shortfall in recruitment in relation to RMP of Assam. The reasons for shortfall are mainly due to the candidates not fulfilling the educational and physical standard despite